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Honors students enjoy Nashville opera

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The Honors Music Appreciation class took a field trip to the Tennessee Performing Arts Center in Nashville on Saturday, Feb. 2, to experience an opera. The Honors class schedules one regular opera trip per semester. This semester's trip was to watch Gilbert and Sullivan's H.M.S. Pinafore. The opera is a comedy set aboard the British steamship, the H.M.S Pinafore, with a romance between the two leads: Ralph, a sailor, and Josephine, the captain's daughter. The two lovers are separated by their social differences until a plot twist allows the lovers to live together in harmony.

For most Honors students in the class, this was their first opera. "When I first found out about the opera, I was optimistic," freshman Kayla Tyson said, "I had never seen an opera before, so I wasn't sure what to expect. It was a lot better than I thought it would be."

Each Honors student was required to write a paper about the opera for the class, highlighting such things as his or her thoughts on the chorus, costumes, set, and acting.

"My favorite part of the night was the music," Tyson said, "As a member of the Women's Choir, I enjoy beautiful vocals, and I was awed by the vocal ranges of the lead characters." Tyson also spoke of her appreciation of the elaborate costumes as well as the caliber of the acting, appreciating the humor in some of the characters.